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REMARKS

Claims 11 and 25 are amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-30 will be pending in the above-identified application.

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Restriction Requirement

Applicant affirms the provisional election made by the undersigned on April 29, 2005, to prosecute the invention recited in claims 11-19 and 25-30 without traverse.

Section 102 - Christensen - Claims 11-13, 17 and 18

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 11-13, 17 and 18 under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,717,191 (Christensen). Each of the claims recites a laminated composite body comprising: a perforated metal foil sheet having a plurality of openings extending through the sheet from a first face to a second face opposite said first face; a fiber ply including a plurality of reinforcing fibers, said fiber ply being positioned adjacent said first face of the metal foil sheet; and an infusible resin extending through the openings in the metal foil sheet and between the plurality of reinforcing fibers of said fiber ply.

Christensen is directed to a susceptor for providing fiber reinforcement to a thermoplastic weld. The susceptor includes alternating layers of thermoplastic resin sheets and fiber reinforcement. A metal susceptor is embedded in the resin. Ultrasonic energy is applied to the metal susceptor to heat it and thereby activate the thermoplastic sheets. The thermoplastic sheets are not an infusible resin as required by the claims. Accordingly, every element recited in the claims is not found in the cited reference and the Section 102 rejection is improper. Therefore, Applicants request the Section 102 rejection be withdrawn.

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Section 102 - Christensen - Claims 25-28 and 30

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 25-28 and 30 under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Christensen. Each of the claims recites a laminated composite body comprising: a layer of metal foil strips having a plurality of gaps, each gap of said plurality of gaps spacing adjacent strips in the layer; a fiber ply including a plurality of reinforcing fibers, said fiber ply being positioned adjacent the layer of metal foil strips; and an infusible resin extending through the gaps in the layer of metal foil strips and between the plurality of reinforcing fibers of said fiber ply.

As discussed above, Christensen discloses a laminate including thermoplastic sheets and fibers. A metal susceptor is heated using ultrasonic energy to melt the thermoplastic sheets. Christensen does not disclose or suggest an infusible resin. Thus, every element recited in the claims is not found in the cited reference. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Section 102 - Scoles - Claims 11-15 and 18

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 11-15 and 18 under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,935,475 (Scoles). Each of the claims recites a laminated composite body comprising: a perforated metal foil sheet having a plurality of openings extending through the sheet from a first face to a second face opposite said first face; a fiber ply including a plurality of reinforcing fibers, said fiber ply being positioned adjacent said first face of the metal foil sheet; and an infusible resin extending through the openings in the metal foil sheet and between the plurality of reinforcing fibers of said fiber ply.

Scoles is directed to an integrated susceptor in which the susceptor (2405) is bonded to a detailed part (2410) using a thermoplastic film (2415). A thermoplastic film is not an infusible resin as recited in the claims. Therefore, every requirement of the claims is not found in the cited reference. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

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Section 102 - Scoles - Claims 25-27

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 25-27 under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Scoles. Each of the claims recites a laminated composite body comprising: a layer of metal foil strips having a plurality of gaps, each gap of said plurality of gaps spacing adjacent strips in the layer; a fiber ply including a plurality of reinforcing fibers, said fiber ply being positioned adjacent the layer of metal foil strips; and an infusible resin extending through the gaps in the layer of metal foil strips and between the plurality of reinforcing fibers of said fiber ply.

As discussed above, Scoles does not disclose or suggest a laminated composite body including an infusible resin. Because each of the elements recited in the claim are not found in the cited references, the Section 102 rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Section 103 - Christensen in view of Scoles - Claims 1, 14-16, 19 and 29

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 14-16, 19 and 29 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christensen in view of Scoles. As discussed above, each of the claims requires a body including an infusible resin. Neither of the cited references discloses or suggests a laminated body comprising infusible resin. Because the references do not disclose or suggest every element recited in the claims, the Section 103 rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

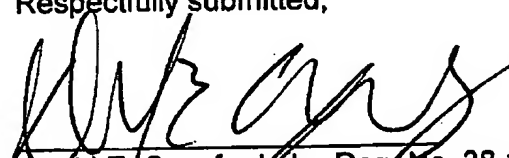
If the Examiner believes that there is any issue which could be resolved by an interview, Applicants request the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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As it is believed that application is in condition for allowance, a favorable action and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 14 JUL 05



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